

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM**

NR Eligible: yes ☐  
no ☐

Property Name: Town Market Inventory Number: WO-337  
Address: 207 S. Baltimore Avenue Historic district: ☐ yes ☒ no  
City: Ocean City Zip Code: 21842 County: Worcester  
USGS Quadrangle(s): Ocean City  
Property Owner: Sethi Parshotam LAL Tax Account ID Number: 027780  
Tax Map Parcel Number(s): 2649 Tax Map Number: 110  
Project: Bridge No. 2300700, US 50 over Sinepuxent Bay Agency: SHA  
Agency Prepared By: KCI Technologies, Inc.  
Preparer's Name: Sandra Scaffidi Date Prepared: 9/30/2005  
Documentation is presented in: Town Market, MIHP No. WO-337; Ocean City Survey District, MIHP No. WO-412  
Preparer's Eligibility Recommendation: ☐ Eligibility recommended ☒ Eligibility not recommended  
Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D Considerations: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G  
*Complete if the property is a contributing or non-contributing resource to a NR district/property:*  
Name of the District/Property: \_\_\_\_\_  
Inventory Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Eligible: ☐ yes Listed: ☐ yes  
Site visit by MHT Staf ☐ yes ☒ no Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Description of Property and Justification: *(Please attach map and photo)*

Located along the east side of Baltimore Avenue between Talbot and Dorchester Streets, the Town Market building now contains specialty shops that cater to tourists. This two and a half story, four bay frame Victorian Gothic inspired commercial building faces west with the gable roof oriented on a north/south axis. The building is clad in weatherboard. Constructed on a low masonry foundation, the structure has an asymmetrical façade with a two story porch sheltering both floors. Square porch posts support the first floor porch while turned posts remain on the second floor. Although the second story of the building has generally remained unchanged, the first floor of the structure is unrecognizable as a nineteenth century shop. The first floor contains three recessed entrances and display windows which have been altered in its design and materials.

The Town Market is recommended not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. The building no longer retains its association with any significant pattern of events (Criterion A). The Town Market does not appear to be related to any person of local, regional or national significance (Criterion B). The structure has been physically altered which comprises its historic and architectural integrity, thereby making the resource not eligible under Criterion C. Additionally, it does not appear to possess the potential for yielding additional significant historical information (Criterion D).

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW**

Eligibility recommended ☒ Eligibility not recommended ☐

Criteria: ☒ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D Considerations: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

MHT Comments: *Alterations do not compromise integrity - still conveys essential character of L19-E20C commercial bldg.*

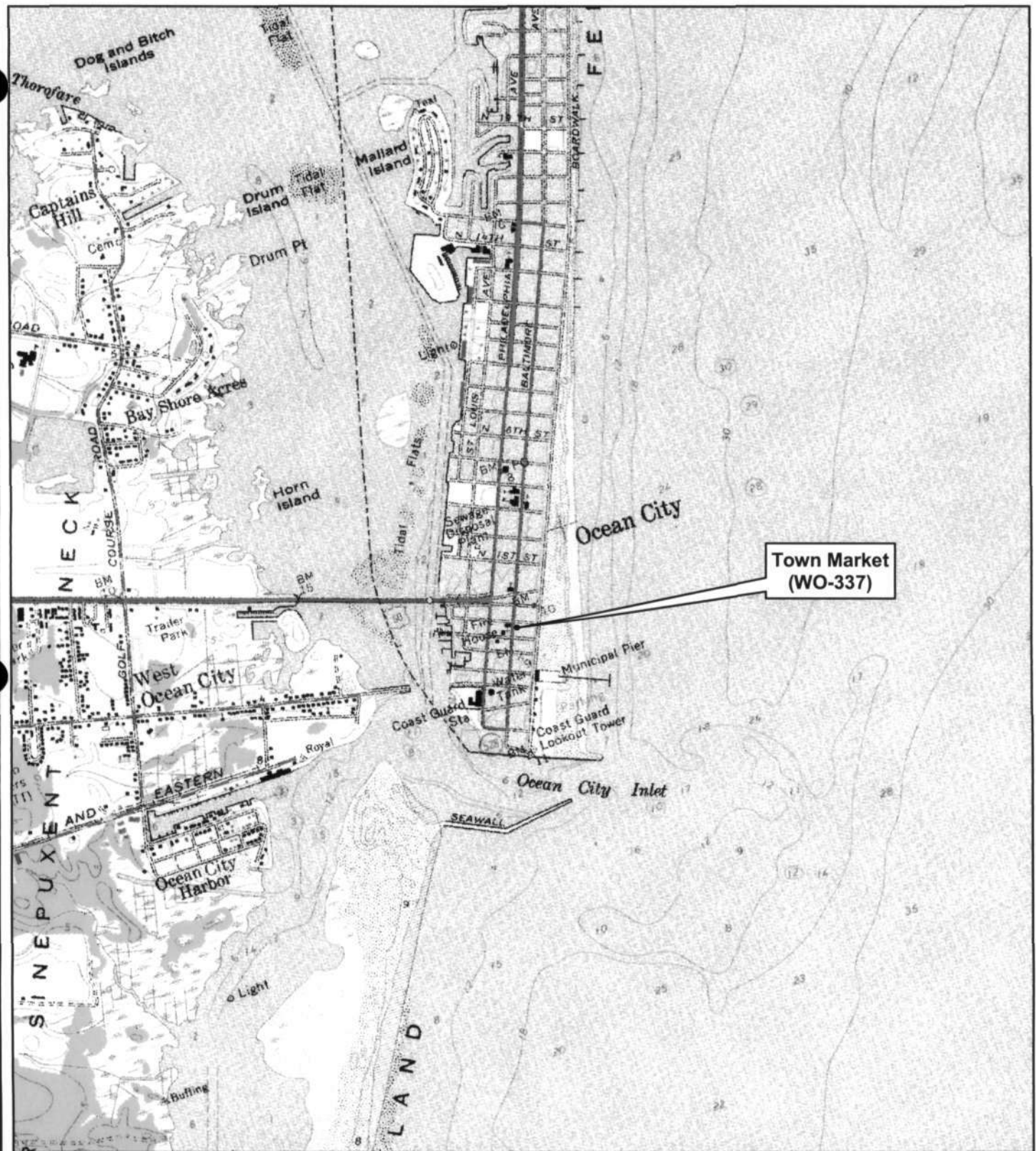
*Tom Tomlinson*  
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services

*6/28/06*  
Date

*[Signature]*  
Reviewer, National Register Program

*6/29/06*  
Date

200503698



**Town Market  
(WO-337)**

0 1,000 2,000  
Feet



### Town Market

Bridge No. 2300700  
US 50 over Sinepuxent Bay  
Worcester County, MD

Source: Ocean City, MD  
USGS 7.5 Minute Quadrangle  
(1964)



W0-412, W0-337

Town Market, Ocean City Survey District

Worcester County, Maryland

Sandra Scaffidi

9/22/05

MD SHPO

Baltimore Avenue Streetscape facing east/northeast. Town Market is in foreground

1-32  
5.65 BA010ANX0N NNN- 2 7007

012

SuperiorPhoto 0/05 64161



WO-412, WO-337

Town Market, Ocean City Survey District

Worcester County, Maryland

Sandra Scaffidi

9/22/05

MD SHPO

facing northeast, ~~facing~~ east and south elevations

2 1/2 2

5.65 BA010ANX0N NNN- 2 7007

005

SuperiorPhoto 0/05 64154

WO-337  
Town Market  
Ocean City  
Private

c. 1900

The Town Market building is a turn of the century frame commercial building evidently erected around the same time as the old Edwin L. Purnell store next door. Both sections of "Lot 49" were owned by Purnell until he sold the south half of the property to John E. Lynch in May 1914. The frame store, like its neighbor to the north, is one of the few relatively intact commercial buildings that dates from Ocean City's early history. Other than the two-story turned post porch and rooftop cross gable, the store is a plain two-story rectangular structure. Worthy of note is the intact first floor commercial front with recessed entrances and beaded board knee walls. The two adjacent stores form interesting companion buildings representing turn of the century commercial architecture for Ocean City.

HISTORIC CONTEXT INFORMATION

Resource Name: Town Market

MHT Inventory Number: W0-337

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA:

1) Historic Period Theme(s):

ARCHITECTURE - COMMERCE

2) Geographic Orientation:

EASTERN SHORE

3) Chronological/Developmental Period(s):

INDUSTRIAL / URBAN DOMINANCE  
(1870-1930)

4) Resource Type(s):

1. Standing Structure

A. Store



# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. WO-337

Magi No.

DOE   yes   no

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic

and/or common TOWN MARKET

## 2. Location

street & number East side of Baltimore Avenue    not for publicationcity, town Ocean City    vicinity of congressional district Firststate Maryland    county Worcester

## 3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<u>  </u> district	<u>  </u> public	<u>  </u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<u>  </u> agriculture <u>  </u> museum
<u>  </u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<u>  </u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<u>  </u> unoccupied	<u>  </u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial <u>  </u> park
<u>  </u> structure	<u>  </u> both	<u>  </u> work in progress	<u>  </u> educational <u>  </u> private residence
<u>  </u> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<u>  </u> entertainment <u>  </u> religious
<u>  </u> object	<u>  </u> in process	<u>  </u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<u>  </u> government <u>  </u> scientific
	<u>  </u> being considered	<u>  </u> yes: unrestricted	<u>  </u> industrial <u>  </u> transportation
	<u>  </u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<u>  </u> no	<u>  </u> military <u>  </u> other:

## 4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name P. L. Sethi

street &amp; number 209 South Baltimore Avenue telephone no.:

city, town Ocean City    state and zip code MD 21842

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Worcester County Clerk of Court liber 676

street &amp; number Worcester County Courthouse folio 532

city, town Snow Hill    state MD 21863

## 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date    federal    state    county    local

depository for survey records

city, town    state

## 7. Description

Survey No. W0-337

### Condition

☐ excellent  
☒ good  
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated  
☐ ruins  
☐ unexposed

### Check one

☐ unaltered  
☒ altered

### Check one

☒ original site  
☐ moved      date of move \_\_\_\_\_

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Town Market stands on the east side of Baltimore Avenue between Talbot and Dorchester streets in the heart of Ocean City, Worcester County, Maryland. The two-and-a-half story, four-bay frame commercial building faces west with the gable roof oriented on a north/south axis.

Built around 1900, the two-and-a-half story weatherboard frame store is supported on a low masonry foundation, and the structure is covered by a steeply pitched asphalt shingle roof. Stretching across the Baltimore Avenue facade is a two-story turned post porch.

The west (main) elevation is an asymmetrical facade with shed roofed two-story porch sheltering both floors. An intact first floor survives with three recessed entrances and flanking display windows on narrow beaded board knee walls. Square porch posts are fixed on the first floor while turned posts remain on the second floor. A square baluster handrail extends between the second floor posts. Permitting access to the second floor is a partially glazed off-center door with flanking two-over-two sash windows. Centered on the roof is a steeply pitched cross gable with a two-over-two sash window.

The north and south sides are largely alike with two-over-two sash windows lighting the first and second floors. A single two-over-two sash window pierces the upper gable. Rising through the south gable end is a narrow brick stack.

The interior was not seen.

## 8. Significance

Survey No. WO-337

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

### Specific dates

### Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D  
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The Town Market building is a turn of the century frame commercial building evidently erected around the same time as the old Edwin L. Purnell store next door. Both sections of "Lot 49" were owned by Purnell until he sold the south half of the property to John E. Lynch in May 1914.(FWH 163/175) The frame store, like its neighbor, is one of the few relatively intact commercial buildings that dates from Ocean City's early history. Other than the two-story turned post porch and rooftop cross gable, the store is a plain two-story rectangular structure. Worth of note is the intact first floor commercial front with recessed entrances and beaded board knee walls. The two adjacent stores form an interesting contrast of turn of the century commercial architecture for Ocean City.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. WO-337

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle name \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle scale \_\_\_\_\_

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A 

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Zone Easting Northing

B 

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Zone Easting Northing

C 

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D 

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E 

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F 

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G 

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H 

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Verbal boundary description and justification \_\_\_\_\_

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Paul B. Touart Architectural Historian

organization Worcester County

date 3/14/90

street &amp; number Worcester County Courthouse

telephone 301-632-1194

city or town Snow Hill

state MD 21863

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
Shaw House  
21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 269-2438

WO-337  
TOWN MARKET  
Ocean City, Maryland  
Chain of title

FWH 676/532

Albert Ronald Wells  
Linwood T. Hitch, Jr.

to

9/5/1979

Parstan Ial Sethi  
\$75,000

FWH 388/50

Irl M. Shockley and Lois M. wife

to

3/14/1973

Albert Ronald Wells, Linwood T. Hitch, Jr.

FWH 388/47

W. Preston Laws, Kathryne P.

to

3/14/1973

Irl M. Shockley, Kathryne P. wife  
Southermost Lot 49

FWH 163/175

John B. Lynch, Ruth J. wife

to

11/14/1962

W. Preston Laws, Kathryne P. his wife

ODC 16/494

Edwin L. Purnell

to

5/2//1914

John E. Lynch

WO-337

Page 2

TOWN MARKET

Ocean City, Maryland

Chain of title

ODC 49/308

Edwin L. Purnell

to

3/7/1924

John E. Lynch

John E. Lynch died in 1926 will dated  
May 16, 1921 and probated March 9, 1926

Real estate was left to wife and son,  
John B. Lynch





North Ocean City

ISLAND

## Bay Shore Acres

Ocean City

WO-337  
TOWN MARKET  
Ocean City, Worcester County, MD  
Ocean City, Maryland Quadrangle  
1964